



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/529,443

12/21/2005

Dieter Hein

166-79

6184

28249 7590 05/16/2008

DILWORTH & BARRESE, LLP
333 EARLE OVINGTON BLVD.
SUITE 702
UNIONDALE, NY 11553

EXAMINER

MARSH, STEVEN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3632

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/16/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/529,443	Applicant(s) HEIN, DIETER	
	Examiner STEVEN M. MARSH	Art Unit 3632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9272007,12212005,3282005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This is the first office action for U.S. Application 10/529,443 for a Multiple Telescoping Tube Comprising a Load Controlled Locking Device filed on March 28, 2005.

Claim Objections

Claim 16 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicant is required to cancel the claim(s), or amend the claim(s) to place the claim(s) in proper dependent form, or rewrite the claim(s) in independent form. The claim claims two inner tubes and two outer tubes, but that is claimed in the parent claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the outer surface" in line 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10 and 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 93/12372 to Lindsay et al. Lindsay discloses a multiple telescopic tube with at least two outer tubes (18) arranged parallel to each other and at least two inner tubes (40) arranged parallel to the outer tubes. The inner tubes are displaceable relative to the outer tubes in the longitudinal direction and there is a clamping device (25) that comprises a clamping engagement element (30, 34) that may be brought into engagement with outer surfaces of the inner tubes. Upon loading of the multiple telescopic tube in a longitudinal clamping direction, the clamping device prevents displacement of the inner tubes relative to the outer tubes in the clamping direction and the displaceability in the opposing longitudinal direction is maintained. Loading in the longitudinal direction corresponds to compression and tensional loading of the tube and the inner tubes are arranged in the outer tubes.

The clamping device has an engagement actuation element (35... also a release device) that is a slider firmly lined to the outer tubes and is movable relative to the clamping engagement element in the longitudinal direction of the tube. Upon loading of the tube in the longitudinal direction the engagement actuation element comes into engagement with the clamping engagement element. The relative movement between

the engagement elements brings about a movement of the clamping engagement element in the direction of the outer surfaces of the inner tube. The engagement actuation element is designed to be complementary to the clamping engagement element and the engagement elements are in wedge-formed engagement with each other. The clamping engagement element comprises at least two members (30) between which the engagement actuation element is situated and the number of members equals the number of inner tubes. The clamping device has a housing firmly linked to the outer tubes in which the engagement elements are accommodated, and the legs are stand legs for holding a camera.

Claims 1, 8, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,942,187 to Blackburn. Blackburn discloses a multiple telescopic tube with at least two outer tubes (13) arranged parallel to each other and at least two inner tubes (14) arranged parallel to the outer tubes. The inner tubes are displaceable relative to the outer tubes in the longitudinal direction and there is a clamping device (fig. 5) that comprises a clamping engagement element (30) that may be brought into engagement with outer surfaces of the inner tubes. Upon loading of the multiple telescopic tube in a longitudinal clamping direction, the clamping device prevents displacement of the inner tubes relative to the outer tubes in the clamping direction and the displaceability in the opposing longitudinal direction is maintained. There is a release device (23) for releasing engagement between the clamping engagement element and the exterior surfaces of the inner tubes, the release device being pre-tensioned by an elastic element in a direction opposed to the release.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent 3,963,207 to Guasti

U.S. Patent 5,253,833 to Indou

U.S. Patent 5,320,316 to Baker

U.S. Patent 6,082,685 to Hein et al.

U.S. Patent 6,702,482 to Sherwin

U.S. Patent 7,000,875 to Pernstich et al.

The above patents disclose various stands and telescopic arrangements.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven Marsh whose telephone number is (571) 272-6819. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00AM to 4:30 PM. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-3600. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

/S. M. M./
Examiner, Art Unit 3632
Steven M. Marsh

/Anita M. King/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632

May 12, 2008